

Human Services Committee

Public Hearing 3/12/15

Senator Abercrombie, Representative Moore and members of the Human Services Committee. My name is Carolyn Goodridge and I am testifying in support of HB 6947, An Act Concerning State Contracts for Human Services. I have worked for many years in not-for-profit agencies in the human services field. The not-for-profit agencies provide most of the services as the safety net for the state. Each year when budget cuts have to be made, it is often the Contracts for Human Services that are cut, while, at the same time, the State expects the same services to be completed for less money. These human service agencies are businesses in the community who employ many of the state citizens as well as serving many of the citizens. As inflation affects the state budget, it also affects the budgets of the human service agencies, but there has not been any cost of living increases, only cuts. HB 6947 creates an automatic cost of living adjustment into state human service contracts which would be beneficial to the agencies as well as the people whom they serve.

Please consider moving this bill forward.

Thank you.